

2 MONTHS AGO

SPLITTING HEADACHE SOLVED: THE NEW LANDLORD SPLIT WITH THE CHANNEL



04 FEB For more than a decade, setting up a splitboard was a huge hassle that involved a serious investment of time and compromises in stance. Translating the plastic pucks to existing insert patterns with strange plastic templates was a process that not only took a ton of time to sort out, but also restricted stance widths, setbacks, and angles to a narrow range of possibilities. The result was an often less than ideal stance and a total reluctance to ever lend out your board or set your stance back for super deep days.

That all changed when Burton integrated The Channel into the new **Landlord Split**. Building on a decade-long partnership with Voile, Burton's splitboard engineers created a new colab puck interface to link any existing Spark, Voile, or Burton Disc binding to The Channel mounting system.

The resulting Landlord Split enables a super-fast setup that eliminates fumbling with hardware and opens the doors to virtually unlimited stance options with 20-to-26-inch widths even if you're running 27-degree angles. The complete stats include 42 degrees of maximum rotation and the option of toe/heel centering plus the same three-year warranty that's found on all Burton boards with The Channel. Keep in mind that the three-year warranty covers the entire board, not just The Channel. Cha-ching!



"It's super fast and easy to mount the pucks, and get your stance dialed," says Dave Downing, who has worked with Burton on splitboard development since 1995. "Getting your stance dialed in on a splitboard is huge, and it makes it super easy. And now you can let a friend use your board, or you can demo it out if you're a retailer, and it's easy to mount it back again to your stance."

The brainstorm behind integrating The Channel technology into a split setup was both an outgrowth of a decade-long partnership with Voile and a logical fusion of two existing technologies. "Burton has been in production with The Channel since 2007—it is our specialty and the technology is something we continuously improve upon," Landlord interface engineer Matt Diem says. "Bringing The Channel to our splitboards was a natural evolution. Once we did that, it became obvious that we could redesign the binding interface to work with The Channel. The result was a simpler system that eased binding set-up and adjustment and allowed the rider to achieve their exact stance."

"Getting your stance dialed in on a splitboard is huge, and The Channel makes it super easy." — Dave Downing

"The biggest advantage of The Channel in splitboards is adjustability," confirms splitboard designer Scott Seward. "Stance adjustments can be made in seconds. The splitboards ship with a small stance indicator that fits easily in any pocket and that, along with a #3 screw driver (or snowboard tool), is all that is required to set up and adjust stances."

The key to the slickness of the solution is that the Burton team built on two proven technologies—the field-tested Voile interface and the holding power of The Channel. "The action that provides the holding power is a pinching force between the mounting insert and the disk," Seward stresses. "In order for us to go to market with The Channel in splitboards, we needed to pass the same strength specs for binding slip and spin testing that our EST and Re:Flex bindings need to pass. Pullout strength of our splitboards is also equal to the strength of The Channel in our solid boards."

"The biggest advantage of The Channel in splitboards is adjustability." — Scott Seward



But speed of setup is not the only advantage. By using The Channel, rather than standard inserts that require a minimum 6mm of core thickness, the board design team was freed to soften splitboard flexes by utilizing lower profiles. For bigger riders that's not such a big deal, but for women or lighter dudes, it creates a much more natural backcountry ride than suffering on a board that feels and flexes like a stiff plank in the pow.

Also, when used with the new groundbreaking fixed-pin Spark Magneto bindings, the coring of the binding and the way it matches up with The Channel system allows for adjusting of the stance width and angle without removing binding from the board. Taken as a whole, it's a brilliantly simple idea that has added another dramatic evolution to splitboard technology as more and more riders have started earning their turns via the skintrack.

"I believe that in the backcountry the simplest solution that meets the functional requirements is the best solution," Diem summarizes. In this case, the new Landlord Split with The Channel Burton/Voile colab interface passes that ultimate backcountry test.

(Story by: Dan Kastrzewski / Photos: Adam Moran)

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